

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 25, with the following rewritten paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 2A, a connection tip 8 is mounted on the forward end of the actuating wire 7 and serves to connect both the ends of a conductive incision wire 9 curved to form a loop as high-frequency treating section to the forward end of the actuating wire 7. There is a tendency of the incision wire 9 imparted to itself to spread outwardly into a loop by itself owing to its elasticity. Therefore, when in the flexible sheath 2, the incision wire 9 is forced to be straight by the inner surface of the flexible sheath 2. When the incision wire 9 extends from the flexible sheath 2, the incision wire 9 will form a loop 10 owing to the elastically restoring force of itself as shown in FIG. 2A. The loop 10 is formed by two incision wire portions 9a and 9b equal in length formed by folding it at the center therebetween. The loop 10 includes an elliptical ring portion curved with a predetermined curvature and a non-circular ring portion extending from the proximal end of the elliptical ring portion and progressively being narrowed (a substantially triangular ring in the illustrated embodiment). As shown in FIG. 2A, the elliptical ring portion has a length D1 in the transverse direction and a length D2 in the longitudinal direction. The shape of the loop with regard to the relation between the lengths D1 and D2 is set up so as to be $D1 > D2$ when the loop 10 is bent and extends in the transverse direction. In the case that the loop is elliptical and bent at right angles to the center axis 7a as shown in FIG. 2A, the lengths D1 and D2 correspond to or substantially coincide with major and minor axes D1 and D2 of the ellipse. The wire portions 9a and 9b unite with each other at the proximal ends 10b and 10b' of the wire portions forming the non-circular ring portion, while at the united point, that is, at wire portions in the proximity of the proximal end of the incision wire 9, a curved portion 11 is formed. By providing the curved portion 11, the loop 10 of the incision wire 9 extending from the forward end of the flexible sheath 2 can be laterally tilted in the direction of arrow T at a predetermined angle, for example, 90° as shown in FIG. 2A. Laterally tilted presumes rotation centered on a tilting axis 10e (FIG. 2B) generally perpendicular to the plane 10d containing the loop 10. The center axis 10c of the loop is a line connecting the leading end (apex) 10a of the loop 10 which is the center of the folded wire and the center point between the proximal ends 10b and 10b'. The center axis 10c of the loop 10 and the center axis 7a of the actuating wire 7 intersects at a predetermined angle. For example, as shown in the drawing these center axes 10c

and 7a intersect at right angles, while the center axis 10c of the loop 10 is at right angles to the center axis 7a of the actuating wire 7 in the plane 10d containing the loop 10.

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